

HOWARD COUNTY BRAC TASK FORCE

BRAC BIT: # 82

DATE: 16 June 2010

SUBJECT(S): BBI Phase II, Small Business "Clearing House"

POINT OF CONTACT: Kent Menser (410-313-6521) kmenser@howardcountymd.gov

1. Upcoming Events/Actions:

- a. BRAC Business Initiative (BBI) End of Phase I Update (Regional Growth Management Committee)
 - i. Date: 23 June, 2010, 8 AM to 10 AM, Ultra Networking (0730-0800) (1000 to 1100)
 - ii. Event: Presentation by the L-3 Corporation on how to do business with them. Followed by a discussion of Phase I results. WE WILL BE LOOKING FOR YOUR INPUT ON ISSUES AS THEY RELATE TO THE BBI!
 - iii. Location: Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Pl # 2 Columbia, MD 21045-3728
- b. MBEW/DBE Application Assistance Workshop (MDOT, Office of Minority Business Enterprise)
 - i. Date: 6 July, 2010, Registration: 9:30 to 10 AM, Workshop: 10 AM to 1 PM
 - ii. Preregistration: www.mdot/Maryland.gov/MBE_Program/Index.html
 - iii. Event: Focus on MD Minority Business Enterprise and Disadvantage Business Enterprise Certification Program.
 - iv. Location: MDOT Headquarters, 7201 Corporate Center Drive, Hanover, MD 21076
 - v. Cost: FREEEEE! I read nothing about a "free lunch," better bring a candy bar and a MTN Dew!

2. BBI Phase II "A Clearing House:"

- a. As we continue to survey the needs our BBI Companies, one subject that keeps coming up is that of a local, small business clearing house. Specifically, several large defense contractors have told us that they would like to do more work with local small businesses, but find it difficult to communicate with these businesses that are not currently doing business with them or one of the Fort Meade Agencies. Concurrently, the small businesses in the BBI have been on us from day one to develop some type of mechanism that consistently increases their visibility with these same defense contractors.
- b. In response to our BBI members, our basic thrust is focused on a sustainable, accurate and automated data base of small and minority businesses that can be utilized by defense contractors. That said; we do understand that the contracting business is about more than capabilities. We have heard that relationships count also!
- c. As we start our initial work in this area, we want to document the specifics of the problem and we want to define its magnitude. In order to accomplish these two goals, we are communicating with as many small businesses as possible. As most of you know, this is a challenge, because there really no comprehensive, accurate and up to date list of small businesses in the region. If there is, please let us know!
- d. What's the point! If you know an agency at any level of government, or a commercial firm that has an effective small business clearing house now, please let us know. We do not want to duplicate an effective, ongoing program. Or, if you have worked an action like this before and have insights and/or great ideas, please contact us. We are after results, no matter where the concept originates.

3. CYBER BITS:

- a. 4/27/2010 - **PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFNS)** -- Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton A. Schwartz has approved the new cyberspace badge and associated wear criteria. In his Apr. 21 memorandum, General Schwartz set forth guidelines and addressed standard eligibility requirements for officers working in the cyberspace domain. Eligibility criteria for enlisted personnel are slated for release in a future message.
- b. Interesting reading: Google Operation Buckshot Yankee